[29th March 1947

Rates of Entertainments and Sales Taxes.

* 121 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the receipts from the Entertainments Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and the General Sales Tax (yearwar) since the enactment of the respective Acts;

(*b*) the rates of these taxes and whether there have been changes;

(*c*) whether the rates of Sales Tax has been altered in respect of any commodities or articles and, if so, what they are and what the rates have been;

(d) the amounts of compensation given to local bodies from the proceeds of the taxes on entertainments and sales of motor spirit (yearwar);

(*e*) the income of local bodies from tolls before its abolition;

(*f*) whether local bodies have claimed a portion of the proceeds from the Sales Tax also and if so, what the decision of Government in the matter is;

(*g*) whether it is proposed to re-enact the Sale of Cloth Act in some other form;

(*h*) whether the licence fees charged for licensing dealers in cloth bears any relation to the proceeds under the Sale of Cloth Act; and

(*i*) whether the system of licensing dealers of all commodities is under consideration?

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) *to* (*i*) The information asked for by the hon. Member is laid on the table of the House.[a]"

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"From the statement placed on the table of the House, it is seen that the local boards are not given anything out of the proceeds of the motor spirit taxes. Prior to 1920–21, district boards and municipalities were in receipt of large sums of money on account of tolls. I wish to know how they can maintain their roads if they are not given any portion of the motor spirit taxes."

The Hon. Sri B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It was never the intention to give anything to the local boards from the amounts realized on account of motor spirit taxation. But toll compensation is being paid to them out of the 105 lakhs and odd which is recovered under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act."

Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

* 122 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of manuscript and printed books in the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 513–514 infra.